

In the Claims:

1. (Second Amendment) A method for preparing a glass composition, said method comprising forming a batch of glass-forming components by admixing a volatile component source containing a volatile selected from the group consisting of boron and heavy metals; a silicate compound of the formula $K_uNa_vAl_wCa_xMg_ySiO_z$, wherein K is potassium, Na is sodium, Al is aluminum, Ca is calcium, Mg is magnesium, Si is silica, and O is oxygen and u, v and w, independently range from about 0 to about 0.5 and wherein at least one of u, v or w has a value of from about 0.1 to 0.5; x and y independently range from about 0.1 to about 0.6; z is a value which balances the empirical formula; and other glass-forming components; melting and refining the batch of glass forming components in a furnace to obtain a glass composition; wherein the glass composition has a reduced variability of oxides distribution measured at the feed end of the furnace or a reduced loss of the volatile component than a glass composition having an equivalent composition produced without using said silicate compound.
4. The method of claim 1 wherein the volatile is a lead or selenium compound.
5. The method of claim 1 wherein the volatile is boron.
6. The method of claim 5 wherein the volatilized boron is reduced by at least about ten percent by weight.
7. (New) The method of Claim 1, wherein the silicate compound is of the formula $K_uCa_xMg_ySiO_z$ and u ranges from about 0.1 to about 0.5.
8. (New) The method of Claim 1, wherein the silicate compound is of the formula $Na_vCa_xMg_ySiO_z$ and v ranges from about 0.1 to about 0.5.
9. (New) The method of Claim 1, wherein the silicate compound is of the formula $Al_wCa_xMg_ySiO_z$ and w ranges from about 0.1 to about 0.5.

REMARKS

Claims 1-6 were originally filed. Claims 2 and 3 have been canceled. Claims 1 and 4-6 are currently pending in this application. Claims 1 and 4-6 are rejected. Claim 1 has been Amended.